

# Words and Confession

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## DAVID MYLES

Who was Executed for Incest, at *Edinburgh*, on  
the 27 Day of November, 1702.

**D**avid Myles, having committed Incest with his Sister *Margaret Myles*, both were Condemn'd to be Hanged: the Woman upon the Twentieth and the Man upon the twenty Seventh of November, She Dyed very obduredly and Obstinate, and gave little or no satisfaction to the Spectators; But he (a young man, not 20 years) dyed very Seriously and Christianly; for when he was brought to the place of Execution, Mr. *James Heart* Exhorted to Repentance; and now at his last Hour to confess, what he had to say, concerning his Crime before the People. Whereupon he went to the Eastern end of the Scaffold, and said, Good People, give ear a while, I now confess before you all, That I was a very bad Liver, and a great Sabbath breaker, and not only a Sabbath breaker, but also a Swearer and Blasphemer of the Holy Name of GOD, and Guilty both of Incest and Fornication. I got a very ill Example from my Parents, Therefore I desire all you that are Parents to give a good Copy to your Children and desire that you would all pray to GOD for me; Whereupon the Auditors cryed out, Lord have Mercy upon his Soul; And Mr. *Heart* Prayed to this purpose, viz. That God would give him a sight of his Sins, and open a Door of Mercy to him; and that the infinit Goodness might speedily prevent him, &c. Then he sung the first 4 Verses of the 51 Psalm: which being done, he went to the Western end of the Scaffold, and earnestly prayed to GOD, to pardon all his sins, to wash him, and cleanse him from all his Iniquities, thro' his mercy, and with the Blood of *Jesus Christ* his Saviour: and that he was unworthy to come before so holy a GOD, for he was a great Sinner and Transgressor: His Sins were great and many, but tho' he was weary and heavy laden, yet hoped he would find Rest; and tho' his Body suffered upon the Gibbet, yet he hoped his Soul would go to Glory, &c. Then he went up the Ladder, and waving fore, entreated the Spectators to take warning by him, and avoid Sin, lest they fall in the same snare. Then he said, O ye that are Parents of Children, God grant ye may cast them a better Copy than ever I got; And all ye that are young folk, who have your Years before your hands, seek God, and fly all Sin, for one Sin brings on another. O all of you that see me this day, Take warning by me, and put up your petitions to God for me. Then Mr. *Heart* prayed earnestly for him again; who, when he had done, enquired at him if he was willing to dye? He answered, Ay, ay, I am very willing: my Offence is great, very great: I do not deserve nor desire to live, for I deserve both Torment here, and Torment hereafter: I am very weary of my Sins. Being enquired at, if he thought his Sentence just, or if he pardoned the Judges? He answered, My Sentence is very just, I forgive the Judges, and all the World, and God forgive them. Mr. *Heart* asked him, what hope he had of his going to Heaven, or which of the promises of the Bible he could lippen to, or rely upon. He answered, many, many, but the particular places do not Strik me in the mind, at present; Mr. *Heart* said, you told me in prison, of that in the 11 of *Matthew*, Come ye to me all ye that Labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest, whereupon he said, I indeed am in Labour, and am heavy laden, but I hope God will give me rest, and receive my Soul in Glory. He confessed again, that he had been a great Sabbath-breaker: After which Mr. *Heart* recommended him to GOD.



THE LAST  
Words and Confession

DAVID MYLES

Who was Executed for Insult at Edinburgh, on  
the 27 Day of November, 1703.

David Myles, having committed himself with his Sister Mary Myles, both  
were condemned to be hanged: the Woman upon the 17th and the  
Man upon the 27th of November. A number of the Dead very obediently  
Obediently, and gave him a full and Christianly Spectator: but he  
young man, not so years) lived very seriously and Christianly: for when  
he was brought to the place of Execution, Mr. Myles was exposed to re-  
buke; and now at his last hour, he wished to live, concerning  
his name before the People. Whereupon he went to the Eastern end of the  
Gallows, and said, Good People, give me a while I now confess before you  
that I was a very bad man, and a great Sabbath breaker, and I am  
Sabbath breaker, I was a Swearer and blasphemer of the Holy Name of GOD;  
and guilty both of Insult and Fornication. I am very ill Example to my  
Peers; therefore I desire all you that are present to give a good Copy to  
your Children and desire that you would all pray for me. I am  
upon the Gallows cried out, Lord have Mercy upon this Soul; And Mr. Myles  
I lived to this purpose, was, That God would give him a light of his sins, and  
open a Door of Mercy to him; and that the infinite Goodness might be  
sent him. Then he sang the 134th Psalm: which he  
done, he went to the Western end of the Gallows, and earnestly prayed to GOD,  
to pardon all his sins, to wash him, and cleanse him from all his iniquities; and  
his mercy, and with the Blood of Jesus Christ his Saviour; and that he was  
worthy to come before to holy a GOD, for he was a great Sinner and Transgressor.  
For: His sins were great and many, but the he was a very heavy laden, and  
hoped he would find rest; and his body suffered upon the Gallows, for he  
hoped his soul would be brought to glory. Then he went up the Gallows, and  
before entered the Spectator to take warning by him, and said, I am  
they fall in the same state. Then he said, O ye that are Fathers of Children,  
God grant ye may call them a better Copy than ever I was. And all ye that are  
young folk, who have your Years before you, I beseech God, and his all-  
terrible Judge on another. O I of you that see me this day, I am warning  
by me, and put up your petitions to God for me. Then Mr. Myles prayed ear-  
nestly for him again: who, when he had done, enquired at him if he was wil-  
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thought his sentence just, or if he pardoned the Judges? He answered, My  
Sentence is very just, I forgive the Judges, and all the World, and God forgive  
them. Mr. Myles asked him, what hope he had of his going to Heaven, or which  
of the promises of the Bible he could lippen to, or rely upon. He answered, not  
by many, but the particular places do not stick in the mind, at present;  
Mr. Myles said, you told me in prison, of late in the 1st of November, that you  
were all ye that I loved, and were heavy laden, and I will give you rest when you  
be said, I indeed am in Labour, and am heavy laden, but I hope God will give  
me rest, and receive my Soul in glory. He comforted again, that he had been a  
great Sabbath breaker: And which Mr. Myles recommended him to GOD.